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# Instructional Program Review

## General Information

1. Name of department (program) under review.

Communication Studies

2. Who is the person(s) submitting the Program Review form?

Timothy Elizondo

3. What is the current academic year (i.e. 2022-23)?

2022-2023

4. Please describe the department/program, its staff and faculty, etc.

1 Full time- Timothy Elizondo and 1 part timer Twyla Olson

5. Please describe how this department's/program's mission relates to the college's [mission](#) and [strategic goals](#).

The Communication Studies department supports the college mission by providing foundational skills to our students in the Sierra foothills. In addition, the department curriculum focuses on helping students integrate into the college community and become independent, life-long learners. Because oral communication skills are required for so many degrees and certificates, the Communication Studies department is critical for reducing barriers to completion and increasing workforce and transfer readiness. In addition, the department's commitment to diverse authorial voices promotes representation which helps to reduce equity gaps.

## Department Data Sheet

1. Review the Department Summary Data Table. What are the strengths? What are the challenges or areas of improvement? What is the impact on students? Respond to a minimum of three trends such as census enrollment, FTES/FTEF, course success rate, course retention rate, etc.

The Fill rate up slightly. Enrollment up. Course success rate down slightly  
ANALYSIS: Ultimately, the data reveals that the courses within the discipline have been dramatically reduced once the previous VPSI decreased support for the program and began imposing enrollment standards upon the courses in the program while allowing other courses in other areas to be offered without the standards. This effectively starved the program as it prevented students interested in pursuing the major to be unable to enroll in necessary courses. In addition, the cancellation of the Forensics program caused the major to lose the active cultural hub that served as the centerpiece of program.

2. Review the Department Student Equity – Success Rates Data Table. What are the strengths? What are the challenges or areas of improvement? What is the impact on students?

Our most successful students seem to be our dual enrollment and CCAP students. The college needs to continue to promote dual enrollment. We can improve our numbers for Filipino, Hispanic, and Native American students. Finally, our non-binary students have a significant equity gap. As instructors, we can make efforts to make non-binary students feel safe and welcome. As a college, support groups and activities should also reflect the college's commitment to LGBTQ+ issues and support. The campus can also make stronger efforts to combat White Nationalism in our local culture.

3. Review the Program (Department) SLO Data Table. How does your department support ISLOs? What are the strengths and challenges? What is the impact on the college mission?

As one of the main departments responsible for the communication ISLO, it seems important that the department's success rate be higher in that area. However, considering the recent changes with AB 705, students no longer have a scaffolded sequence of courses to lead up to English 1A to gain necessary skills, our least prepared students simply need more than one attempt to learn all of the skills necessary to pass and this is seen in the data linked to Comm 1. We mainly support the college mission by providing foundational skills in communication and critical thinking

## Award Data Sheet

1. Review both tables on the Award Data Sheet. What are the strengths? What are the challenges or areas of improvement? What is the impact on students?

The number of students seeking the major has decreased since the elimination of the campus Forensic program despite the enrollment of students in Comm courses has remained consistent. The reduction of students who have completed the award may also be due to the lack of courses being offered that assist students in obtaining the degree. This includes courses such as Intercultural Communication and/or Forensics Workshop that are in the catalog yet are not offered and/or are cancelled due to administration imposed minimum enrollment standards.

## Course Data Sheet

1. Review the Course Summary Data Table for each course. What are the trends for enrollment, retention, and success rates? What are the strengths? What are the challenges or areas of improvement? What is the impact on students?

Comm 1 remains robust and serves as a requirement for many awards across campus. Census enrollment is beginning to pick up in the wake of COVID. Online course offerings continue to outpace face-to-face offerings as far as enrollments. While Comm 1 and Comm 4 remain popular courses with robust enrollments, the other courses within the discipline continue to struggle with enrollment goals. Comm 5 and Comm 7 have not been offered in the past 4 years and there was not any discussion about what the future holds for these programs. Comm 9 is struggling to as it competes against other Comm courses within the 1A Oral Communication CSU and/or 1C IGETC requirements. Ultimately, the data reveals that the courses within the discipline have been dramatically reduced once Dr. Sanders decreased support for the program and began imposing enrollment standards upon the courses in the program while allowing other courses in discipline to be offered without the standards.

2. Review the Student Learning Outcomes Data Table for each course. What are the strengths and challenges? What is the impact on the college mission?

While Comm 1 and Comm 4 remain popular courses with robust enrollments, the other courses within the discipline continue to struggle with enrollment goals. This allows the College to promote the program as one that exists “on the books” yet functions more like a ghost of a program as there are several classes that are never offered due to enrollment standards and a lack of enthusiasm expressed by former administrators that devalued the merits of the Forensics program.

## Curriculum Analysis

1. What courses and awards are due for 5-year review? To find this information, go to the [Curriculum Committee webpage](#) and click on the following links in the left menu bar: Course 5 Year Review Tracker link and Award 5 Year Review Tracker link.

Comm 1 and Comm 4 need updated CSLO's and should add an additional CSLO.  
Comm 9 is past due and Comm 1 and 7 are going to be due soon.  
Interestingly, Comm 5 is not up for review, yet it has not been offered in the past four years.

## Goal Setting

On the following pages, please establish goals for your department. Keep in mind the purpose of the Program Review to drive continuous improvement, as well as to help establish a need for funding or other support to achieve improved outcomes. **What sorts of things will the department be doing, or would it like to be doing, to maintain, expand, or improve excellent instructional delivery?**

This template has space to establish up to three goals. If you wish to add more goals, additional forms are available in the Teams folder.

## Goal 1

1. State the status of this goal (new, in-progress, or completed):

I have started to move the Comm courses to online modalities, yet I need more institutional support with editing and refining the courses for OEI approval. This next step is critical in that it will allow our program to expand the range of students we can draw from for our courses and will help modernize our program in the field.

2. State this goal in one or two sentences?

Align all online course material to meet OEI standards and submit online courses for inclusion in the State-wide OEI program

3. What is a short name for this goal?

Join the OEI's Cool Club

4. In what ways will achieving the goal support the college's mission and/or core values?

This goal would increase award completion due to the way it would attract a larger pool of students. This goal could also link to maintaining institutional stability as it would allow us to draw from a larger pool of students and would have the potential to grow our enrollment outside of our geographic borders/

5. List the college-wide strategic goals that will be addressed by this goal (include all that apply and remove any that do not apply).

- Increase award completion
- Maintain institutional stability
- Reduce barriers

6. What steps are you going to take to achieve this goal?

Ask for support

7. How are you going to measure completion of this goal?

Count the number of courses/faculty Comm get OEI approved

8. If this goal was completed or is in progress, please provide an update and summarize efforts.

I have asked.

9. Briefly describe or list the types of resources (staffing, equipment, technology, facilities, etc.) that are needed to support and achieve this goal. Then enter all resource requests through the Resource Allocation Requests link below.

Money/resources need to be allocated towards an employee that has full-time responsibilities including assisting staff/faculty with editing online course content to meet OEI standards

## Resource Allocation Requests

- Enter requests in the Program Review Resource Allocations Request Form (Secured – YCCD Login Required) located on the [Program Review webpage](#) under the Resource Allocation Requests heading.

## Goal 2

1. State the status of this goal (new, in-progress, or completed):

Assist the college in hiring a new staff member who have duties commitment to revieing online courses for OEI inclusion.

2. State this goal is one or two sentences?

Hire help for OEI Review/Inclusion

3. What is a short name for this goal?

Hire help for OEI Review/Inclusion

4. In what ways will achieving the goal support the college's mission and/or core values?

Getting our Comm courses into the OEI will dramatically increase the range of students we can draw into our courses and programs. It also helps mitigate the impact that the Modesto Junior College's Communication Studies Department online expansion has on our enrollment and the viability of Columbia's Communicaiton Studies Department.

5. List the college-wide strategic goals that will be addressed by this goal (include all that apply and remove any that do not apply).

- Increase award completion
- Reduce barriers to completion
- Maintain institutional stability

6. What steps are you going to take to achieve this goal?

Promote the idea of a new hire

7. How are you going to measure completion of this goal?

If we hire someone who can assist.

8. If this goal was completed or is in progress, please provide an update and summarize efforts.

9. Briefly describe or list the types of resources (staffing, equipment, technology, facilities, etc.) that are needed to support and achieve this goal. Then enter all resource requests through the Resource Allocation Requests link below.

We need funds to hire someone

## Resource Allocation Requests

- Enter requests in the Program Review Resource Allocations Request Form (Secured – YCCD Login)



Required) located on the [Program Review webpage](#) under the Resource Allocation Requests heading.

### Goal 3

1. State the status of this goal (new, in-progress, or completed):

2. State this goal in one or two sentences?

3. What is a short name for this goal?

4. In what ways will achieving the goal support the college's mission and/or core values?

5. List the college-wide strategic goals that will be addressed by this goal (include all that apply and remove any that do not apply).

- Increase award completion
- Reduce barriers to completion
- Reduce equity gaps
- Increase transfer readiness
- Increase workforce readiness
- Maintain institutional stability

6. What steps are you going to take to achieve this goal?

7. How are you going to measure completion of this goal?

8. If this goal was completed or is in progress, please provide an update and summarize efforts.

9. Briefly describe or list the types of resources (staffing, equipment, technology, facilities, etc.) that are needed to support and achieve this goal. Then enter all resource requests through the Resource Allocation Requests link below.

### Resource Allocation Requests

- Enter requests in the Program Review Resource Allocations Request Form (Secured – YCCD Login Required) located on the [Program Review webpage](#) under the Resource Allocation Requests heading.

## Submit

- When you have completed all areas of the Program Review as outlined above, notify your dean by typing the @ symbol and your dean's name in the box below (e.g. @Sean Osborn, @Steve Amador, etc.).

[@Sean Osborn\\_](#)

[@Jeri Pourchot](#)

## Dean's Review and Feedback

Deans: Please review the form above and place any thoughts or feedback that you have in the space below. Feedback from AAC, counseling, industry, etc. can be included. When completed, please put the @ symbol and the faculty member name(s) at the end so that they will get notified when your review is completed.

Communication Studies, like many programs on campus, has been impacted by COVID and student interest. There is support available for faculty to learn how to make their online courses OEI compliant. The main part of this, is to have material accessible for disabled students. This compliance issue is the responsibility of faculty to make sure they are meeting those compliance issues. The Distance Ed coordinator and support staff can assist with this training.